

Weekly Newscast Lesson Plan



Learning English with CBC



Learning English with CBC is a joint project with
CBC Calgary, CBC Edmonton and the Government of Alberta

The Alberta logo, which features the word "Alberta" in a white, flowing, cursive font, with a small orange square containing a white triangle to the right of the letter "a".

Calgary

February 27, 2017

Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide an authentic learning resource

Contents:

- Three news stories
- Vocabulary building activities
- Listening comprehension activities
- Transcripts
- Answer keys

News story #1 Douglas Garland assaulted in jail (0:13)

Setting the Scene



Douglas Garland being returned to the Calgary Remand Centre (Jeff McIntosh/Canadian Press) (CBC file photo)

Last week, Douglas Garland was found guilty of murder. Three people, a couple and their five-year-old grandson, went missing in 2014. The courts ruled that it was Garland who murdered them. Garland was the man's former business partner, and their relationship had gone bad years earlier. It was a very sad and shocking story for the people of Calgary. The story was in the news for years: when the family went missing, when Garland was accused, and when Garland's murder trial took place. In Canada, the charge for this kind of murder is a life sentence, which means 25 years in prison for each murder that was committed. It seems that Douglas Garland will spend the rest of his life in jail.

Pre-listening Questions

What are some reasons that people go to prison?

Do you think a 25-year prison sentence is fair for the crime of murder?

How is murder punished in your home country?

Vocabulary

Sentence Completion

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you understand the news story. Use the vocabulary words below to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

inmates (n.)	prisoners
beating (n.)	the act of hitting someone repeatedly
attack (n.)	violent or harmful act against someone
sentenced (v.)	given a punishment by a judge
injuries (n.)	physical harm or damage
facing (v.)	having to deal with an unpleasant situation
protection (n.)	the act of being kept away from harm or danger

1. Sometimes when people get hurt, they can take care of themselves at home. But if the _____ are severe, they should see a doctor.
2. The new city buses are _____ criticism from people in the city. They think the money should be spent on improving roads instead.
3. Street crime is rare in this neighbourhood. However, last year, there was an _____ in the park at night. One man tried to harm another man by _____ him with a baseball bat.
4. Prison guards get a lot of safety training for their jobs. This is for their _____, in case the _____ in the prison try to hurt them.
5. People who commit violent crimes are often _____ to go to jail and also receive counseling.

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

aggravated assault – the crime of severely hurting or attacking someone

parole – the early release of a prisoner, based on the promise of and reward for good behaviour

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_35zcb1

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Task

Matching

Read the numbers below. As you listen to the audio, complete the sentences by matching the number with the correct information that follows.

Answers are in the appendix.

Number/Time Information

Number/Time	Information
4	number of people murdered by Garland
17th	year that Garland was arrested
0	date of the attack, in February
75	age of the boy that Garland murdered
3	number of inmates charged with aggravated assault
2014	years that Garland will spend in prison (according to the sentence)
Unit 3	chance of parole for Garland
first	the name of the jail area where Garland stays
5	degree of murder that Garland committed

Food for Thought

Why do you think this assault happened?

How do you think the inmates who assaulted Garland should be punished?

Do you think violence is common in jail? How can these acts be prevented?

News story #2 **Bullying, harassment complaints in Calgary Police Service (1:31)**

Setting the Scene



Police officer Jen Magnus (*left*) is one of the complainants against Chief Roger Chaffin (*right*) (Dave Gilson/CBC) (CBC file photo)

The Calgary Police Service is facing complaints from members of the service. The complaints have been filed against Roger Chaffin, the Calgary Chief of Police. Complainants say that they experienced bullying and sexual harassment while trying to do their jobs. Both bullying and sexual harassment are not allowed in any workplace. There have been previous complaints against the Calgary Police Service. People have said that harassment and bullying continue in the police force, and the force isn't working hard enough to fix these problems.

Pre-listening Questions

What should you do when you see bullying or harassment take place?

How can people prevent bullying and harassment in the workplace?

What is your workplace policy on bullying? What is the policy on harassment?

Vocabulary

Matching

To help you better understand the words in the news story, match the words with their definitions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Vocabulary word</u>	<u>Definition</u>
_____	filing (v.)	a) repeated bothering (verbal, physical, and/or sexual)
_____	bullying (n.)	b) hurt, made to feel pain
_____	harassment (n.)	c) official notice of quitting
_____	complaints (n.)	d) coming from inside a group or organization
_____	internal (adj.)	e) intimidation of someone less powerful
_____	resignation (n.)	f) the act of harming someone because you were harmed first
_____	suffered (v.)	g) statements that a situation is unacceptable
_____	promised (v.)	h) searching for the truth
_____	investigating (v.)	i) giving a document to a court or organization
_____	revenge (n.)	j) committed to doing something

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_35zch0

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Activity

Multiple Choice

Read the following questions. Then listen to the audio and circle the best answer to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

- 13 Mounties / members / mentors of the Calgary Police Service are filing bullying and harassment complaints.
- The group says the Service did not provide a strong / satisfying / safe work environment.
- One of the complainants, Jen Magnus, is a 14-year member of the force who publicly / passionately / practically resigned in January.
- Magnus says she suffered from careful / committed / continued bullying and sexual harassment.
- Magnus says she faced / feared / fought for revenge for speaking out.
- Magnus and her lawyer met secretly / repeatedly / recently with the police chief.
- Magnus says the chief has performed / promised / planned to investigate complaints.
- Chief Chaffin says he welcomes the constables / challenges / complaints and hopes the issue helps change the culture at CPS.

Food for thought

Why do you think Jen Magnus resigned publicly?

Why do you think Chaffin “welcomes” the complaints?

Imagine that a loved one faced problems like this at work. What advice would you give?

News story #3 Mumps outbreak in southern Alberta (2:51)

Setting the Scene



(Johanna LeguerreAFB/Getty Images) (CBC file photo)

Mumps are a contagious viral disease. There is a vaccination for the disease, which is usually administered in two doses: one when a child is about one year old, and one when a child is about five years old. If a person has had the mumps vaccination, they are far less likely to get the disease. If a person catches mumps, it can cause a lot of discomfort, and even deafness. The disease can also cause sterility in adult males. This means they cannot have babies. People in southern Alberta, especially in schools and hospitals, are being told to look out for signs of the disease.

Pre-listening Questions

What do you usually do when you get sick?

How do you prevent diseases from spreading?

Where do you go when you have health questions? The doctor? The Internet? Somewhere else?

Vocabulary

Find the definition (Multiple Choice)

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you understand the news story. Read the sentences below and choose the best definition for the words in **bold**.

Answers are in the appendix.

1. When there is an **outbreak** of an illness, hospitals get much busier.
 - a. start of something good
 - b. start of something bad
2. People can have the flu for a day before showing **symptoms**, such as a sore throat.
 - a. a change in the body when it is sick
 - b. a medicine for the body when it is sick
3. My mother says chicken soup is good for illness. My doctor **confirmed** that this is healthy.
 - a. established the truth
 - b. shared instructions
4. In 2016, people were afraid to travel to certain countries because of the Zika **virus**.
 - a. a style or trend
 - b. an illness or disease
5. Shelley has an ear **infection**. She thinks she caught it at the public swimming pool.
 - a. a disease caused by germs entering the body
 - b. a disease caused when sharing public space
6. Some people have trouble **swallowing** large pills. They can get stuck in the throat.
 - a. taking from a doctor
 - b. passing down the throat
7. Some medicine is available in flavours, and you can **chew** the pills like food.
 - a. bite in the mouth with teeth
 - b. hold carefully in the hand
8. Many illnesses cause the feeling of **fatigue**. People sleep or stay in bed all day.
 - a. extreme tiredness
 - b. extreme stress

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

came down with – caught (a disease)

saliva – the liquid produced in the mouth

vaccine – medical product that prevents illness, given through a needle

fever – an unusually high body temperature, usually a sign of illness

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: <https://quizlet.com/ 35zclt>

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Listening Activity

Answering True/False questions

Read the following statements. While you listen to the story, decide whether the statements are **true** or **false**. Write your answer in the blanks.

Answers are in the appendix.

1. Health officials in southern Alberta are warning about one case of the mumps.
2. They are telling people to look out for symptoms.
3. At least 9 people in all of Alberta have caught mumps.
4. The outbreak has moved to Medicine Hat.
5. Six members of a hockey team caught the virus.
6. The last mumps outbreak in Alberta was 10 years ago.
7. The 2007 outbreak was also in the south.
8. Mumps is spread through infected blood.
9. They are trying to invent a vaccine to protect against it.
10. Some symptoms of mumps are headache and weakness.

Food for thought

What do you do when you feel symptoms of an illness?

What do you do when there's an outbreak of illness in your community?

Think about medicine and treatments in Canada. Are they similar or different from your home country?

Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	FEBRUARY WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi. I'm Shannon Scott and this is learning English with the CBC for February 27th, with stories that made news over the past week.	0:00
Story 1	Four inmates are facing charges of aggravated assault in the jail beating of Douglas Garland. The attack happened at the Calgary Remand Centre on Feb. 17 th , just hours after Garland was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 75 years for the murders of 3 people. Garland was taken to hospitals with injuries to his face and body. He was sent back to the Remand Centre over the weekend. He's been at the centre since his arrest in 2014. He stays in what's called "Unit 3", an area for inmates facing serious charges who need some level of protection. That area is where he was attacked. Garland has been found guilty of three counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of 5-year-old Nathan O'Brien and his grandparents Alvin and Kathy Liknes.	0:13
Story 2	13 members of the Calgary Police Service are filing bullying and harassment complaints with Chief Roger Chaffin. The group says the Service does not provide a safe work environment. One of the complainants is Constable Jen Magnus. She is a 14-year member of the force who publicly offered her resignation at a Calgary Police Commission meeting in January to draw attention to the issues. She says she suffered from continued bullying and sexual harassment. She also says she feared revenge for speaking out. Magnus says the police service needs to start holding people accountable. She and her lawyer met recently with the police chief and say he has promised to investigate complaints with an internal investigator. Chief Roger Chaffin says he welcomes the complaints and hopes the investigation helps to change the culture at CPS.	1:31
Story 3	Health Officials in southern Alberta are warning about an outbreak of the mumps, and say people should be on the lookout for symptoms. There have been at least 9 confirmed cases in southern Alberta. The outbreak started in Medicine Hat when 7 members of the town's Western Hockey League team came down with the virus. It's been 10 years since the province had a mumps outbreak. The last one in 2007 was also in southern Alberta. Mumps is a viral infection spread through infected saliva. There is a vaccine to protect against it that is usually given to young children. Symptoms of mumps include fever, headache, pain while chewing or swallowing, weakness and fatigue.	2:51

Answer keys

News story 1 Douglas Garland assaulted in jail (0:13)

Vocabulary

1. Sometimes when people get hurt, they can take care of themselves at home. But if the *injuries* are severe, they should see a doctor.
2. The new city buses are *facing* criticism from people in the city. They think the money should be spent on improving roads instead.
3. Street crime is rare in this neighbourhood. However, last year, there was an *attack* in the park at night. One man tried to harm another man by *beating* him with a baseball bat.
4. Prison guards get a lot of safety training for their jobs. This is for their *protection*, in case the *inmates* in the prison try to hurt them.
5. People who commit violent crimes are often *sentenced* to go to jail and also receive counseling.

Listening

Number/Time Information

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News story 2

Bullying, harassment complaints in Calgary Police Service (1:31)

Vocabulary

Answer	Vocabulary word	Definition
i	filing (v.)	a) repeated bothering (verbal, physical, and/or sexual)
e	bullying (n.)	b) hurt, made to feel pain
a	harassment (n.)	c) official notice of quitting
g	complaints (n.)	d) coming from inside a group or organization
d	internal (adj.)	e) intimidation of someone less powerful
c	resignation (n.)	f) the act of harming someone because you were harmed first
b	suffered (v.)	g) statements that a situation is unacceptable
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Listening

1. 13 Mounties / members / mentors of the Calgary Police Service are filing bullying and harassment complaints.
2. The group says the Service did not provide a strong / satisfying / safe work environment.
3. One of the complainants, Jen Magnus, is a 14-year member of the force who publicly / passionately / practically resigned in January.
4. Magnus says she suffered from careful / committed / continued bullying and sexual harassment.
5. Magnus says she faced / feared / fought for revenge for speaking out.
6. Magnus and her lawyer met secretly / repeatedly / recently with the police chief.
7. Magnus says the chief has performed / promised / planned to investigate complaints.
8. Chief Chaffin says he welcomes the constables / challenges / complaints and hopes the issue helps change the culture at CPS.

News story 3

Mumps outbreak in Southern Alberta (2:51)

Vocabulary

1. When there is an **outbreak** of an illness, hospitals get much busier.
 - a. start of something good
 - b. start of something bad
2. People can have the flu for a day before showing **symptoms**, such as a sore throat.
 - a. a change in the body when it is sick
 - b. a medicine for the body when it is sick
3. My mother says chicken soup is good for illness. My doctor **confirmed** that this is healthy.
 - a. established the truth
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4. In 2016, people were afraid to travel to certain countries because of the Zika **virus**.
 - a. a style or trend
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5. Shelley has an ear **infection**. She thinks she caught it at the public swimming pool.
 - a. a disease caused by germs entering the body
 - b. a disease caused when sharing public space
6. Some people have trouble **swallowing** large pills. They can get stuck in the throat.
 - a. taking from a doctor
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7. Some medicine is available in flavours, and you can **chew** the pills like food.
 - a. bite in the mouth with teeth
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 - a. extreme tiredness
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Listening

1. F Health officials in southern Alberta are warning about one case of the mumps.
2. T They are telling people to look out for symptoms.
3. F At least 9 people in all of Alberta have caught mumps.
4. F The outbreak has moved to Medicine Hat.
5. F Six members of a hockey team caught the virus.
6. T The last mumps outbreak in Alberta was 10 years ago.
7. T The 2007 outbreak was also in the south.
8. F Mumps is spread through infected blood.
9. F They are trying to invent a vaccine to protect against it.
10. T Some symptoms of mumps are headache and weakness.